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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of
Apurba BHATTACHARJEE et al.
Serial No. 08/887,044
Filed: June 20, 1997
For: VACCINE AGAINST GRAM-
NEGATIVE BACTERIAL
INFECTIOnS

D/SEC
Group Art Unit: 1641
Examiner: S. Devi



AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION
UNDER 37 CFR §1.111

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

REACIVER

JAN 21 1999

MATRIX CUSTOMER
SERVICE CENTER

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated September 14, 1998, applicants request that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 12, line 1, delete "11" and insert --19--

Please add the following claims:

--19. A method of passively conferring upon a second subject protection against infection heterologous Gram-negative bacteria or against lipopolysaccharide (LPS) endotoxin-mediated pathology by the production of an antibody, comprising:

- a) actively immunizing a first subject with a vaccine comprising a non-covalent complex between (i) purified, detoxified LPS endotoxin derived from *E. coli* and (ii) purified, detoxified outer membrane protein (OMP) derived from *N. meningitidis*;